THE

Bombay Gazette.

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NOTICE.

The Directors of the "Bombay Gazette" having decided to stop publishing the paper in its old form, have arranged to issue this sheet daily, pending other arrangements.

BRITISH ARMY.

OPTIMISTIC STATEMENT BY COLONEL SEELY.

GO CAUSE FOR ANXIETY.

LONDON, March 10.

In the House of Commons to-day, Colonel Seely introduced the Army Estimates.

He said that although there was a shortage of 8,000 men in the regulars there was a surplus of 13,000 resersists. Consequently there was no cause for anxiety.

The speeding-up of the mobilisation arrangements had been remarkable, and they had now an expeditionary force of 162,000 men complete in all details. Fifty thousand men of all arms could be ready in a few hours to go anywhere.

Measures were being taken to solve the problem of providing education for the men promoted from the ranks.

Since they had been advertising, they had secured a thousand more recruits than during the corresponding period in 1913.

Although the Territorials were still 56,000 men short, the year's recruiting had been the biggest on record and there had been a continuous and substantial increase in efficiency. The National Reserve now numbered over 217,000 men.

FLYING TRAGEDIES.

FATALITIES IN ENGLAND AND AUSTRIA.

LONDON, March 10.

An aviator named Captain Downer fell with his aeroplane at Upavon to-day from a height of 2,000 feet. He was killed.

He had been service in the South African war.

VIENNA, March 10.

While flying at the Aspern aerodrome, a Lieutenant and a passenger fell, and were both killed.

THE BANISHED TEN.

EXCLUSION FROM S. AFRICA NOT NECESSARILY PERMANENT.

CAPE TOWN, March 10.

Moving the third reading of the Indemnity Bill in the House of Assembly, General Smuts emphasised that the banishment of the deportees was ot necessarily perpetual, as the Immigration Act enabled a temporary permit to be granted to a deportee if he made out a satisfactory case.

There was no crime for which a man like Dr. Poutsma could be prosecuted, but nevertheless he would be able to produce a social revolution.

The Bill was eventually passed on the third reading by 70 votes to 12.

SIGNIFICANT ELECTIONS,

BLOEMFONTEIN, March 11.

The Municipal elections here have been remarkable for a record poll. Three Labour candidates have been returned, including Messrs. Duff and Campbell, who were imprisoned under martial law.

THE HOME RULE OFFER.

OBJECTIONS TO THE SIX-YEARS' EXCLUSION LIMIT.

CIVIL WAR AVERTED.

LONDON, March 9.

Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, speaking in the House of Commons on Mr. Asquith's Home Rule statement, said:—"Let us have peace if we can. If we cannot, let us have Home Rule." The Labour Party, he declared, woul dnot listen to any talk of a General Election until the Bill was passed.

Mr. Tim Healy asserted that he would rather there should be no Bill than that it should have the proposed modifications.

The debate was adjourned until the 16th instant.

LONDON, March 10.

The second reading of the Home Rule Bill will probably be resumed on the 30th inst.

Insurance at Lloyds against a General Election before June 30 has risen from fifteen to thirty guineas per cent within a week.

Lord Milner, in a letter to the "Times," says Mr. Asquith's statement makes it imperative on the signatories of the recently issued Unionist Covenant to redouble their appeal to the nation to make it clear to the forces driving Mr. Asquith that a more generous offer must yet be made.

An impression prevails in the Lobby that a great advance has been made towards a settlement of the Home Rule question and that the menace of civil war has certainly vanished.

Yesterday's discussion is not accepted as conclusive and the position is admittedly difficult, but it is hoped that a further debate will lead to a compromise, though possibly not before the Bill reaches the House of Lords.

PRESS CRITICISMS.

The Unionist Press generally takes Sir Edward Carson's standpoint that the six years' limit is impracticable. The "Times," the "Daily Mail," the "Standard," and the "Daily Graphic," declare that Mr. Asquith's offer is doomed to failure unless he abandons the time-limit.

The "Morning Post" says Mr. Asquith is simply manoeuvring for a position in view of the inevitable appeal to the country.

The "Daily Telegraph" writes: "Mr. Asquith has confessed himself beaten by the Ulster men and he must go further or yield to the demand for an election. The Government's prestige has been shattered by the eleventh-hour concession."

The "Daily News" says: "The Government's generosity has exceeded expectations. It is the thick, not the thin end of the exclusion wedge. If it is adopted, Irish unity will be severely in danger, if it is rejected, the country will expect the Government to temporise no longer but severely to repress the rebellion.'

The "Daily Chronicle" remarks that the time limit is not a very material point.

PERSONAL ATTACKS.

COMMONS REFUSE TO CENSURE CHANCELLOR

LONDON, March 11

The House of Commons rejected by 304 votes to 240 a motion introduced by Sir John Randles regretting the "repeated inaccuracies of Mr. Lloyd George and his gross and unfounded personal attacks on individuals."

PENNY "TIMES."

NORTHCLIFFE'S COMPLETE CONQUEST OF "THUNDERER.

A POLITICAL ORGAN.

LONDON, March 10.

The *Times* announces that in view of the grave importance of the political situation, its price will be reduced to a penny on the 16th instant.

The reduction in the price of the *Times* to a penny is something of a national event. The following table shows the price of the *Times* at successive stages of its career:—

July	1,	1796	4½d.
January	1.	1799	6 d.
May	22,	1809	6½d.
September	1,	1815	7 d.
September	15,	1836	5 d.
July	1,	1855	4 d.
October	1,	1851	3 d.
May	5,	1913	2 d.

The reduction from 3d. to 2d. in May last immediately resulted in an unprecedented demand for the paper. Writing of the experiment itself, the *Times* declared: "In anticipation of an increased demand, an addition of 25 per cent. had been made to the number of copies usually published. But the supply was not large enough.

"There has always been a section of the public that has been content to take the *Times* on trust as a national rather than a personal possession. They have regarded it chiefly as a journal which other people found it convenient, even necessary, to file for purposes of reference. . . The *Times*, we confidently believe, has been brought more in touch with the public by the reduction in its price. At the same time, there will be no falling off in its quality or change in its character—except the healthy and natural change of growth.

The *Times* was founded in 1785, as the *London Daily Universal Register*, and assumed its present title in 1788. Since 1803 the Walter family have been the chief proprietors and directors. A reorganisation took place in 1908, whereby Lord Northcliffe acquired a considerable proprietary share.

It has been suggested that a reduction in the price of the *Times* would be a degradation, but there are small grounds for holding this view. As Mr. Scott-James remarks, in his "Influence of the Press," "it was not the proprietors of the *Times* who were to step down from their pedestals to give instruction to the masses. On the contrary it was the founder of *Answers*, who was to rise up and conquer the *Times*," and looked at from the broadest point of view, the conquest has not been for evil. The *Times* must move with the times, and the present paper shows that it can do so in a dignified and satisfactory manner.

MARCONI SCANDALS.

LONDON, March 10

In the House of Lords, Lord Lansdowne, moving the appointment of the Marconi Committee, said Lord Loreburn had joined on condition that the charges against Lord Murray of Elibank were made specific and were formulated and that the inquiry was limited to them.

The method of the Committee should be judicial, and both sides of the House desired his appointment.

Lord Crewe said that he still regarded the Committee as unnecessary. Nevertheless he agreed that it should be constituted as strongly judicially as possible. Therefore he did not object to the appointment of Lord Loreburn.

VOLTURNO DISASTER.

KING GEORGE REWARDS BRAVE RESCUERS

LONDON, March 11.

King George has awarded 228 medals for bravery to persons who took part in the rescue work in connection with the burning of the Volturno in the Atlantic last October.

The Board of Trade, also, has presented pieces of plate and binoculars to the officers and £600 to the seamen of the liners which helped in the rescue.

LADY WILLINGDON.

ANOTHER HOSPITAL VISITED.

Her Excellency Lady Willingdon has visited many hospitals in Bombay since her arrival during the early part of last year, which shows the great interest that she takes in such institutions.

Yesterday about noon Lady Willingdon paid a visit to the Adams Wyllie Memorial Hospital, and today she is to visit the Leper Asylum at Matunga and on Thursday the Masina Hospital.

At yesterday's visit Her Excellency was accompanied by A.-D.-C. Lieut. Jackson and on arrival was received by the Hon. Mr. Lallubhai Samaldas, the Secretary of the Hospital, Sir Mangaldas Nathubhai, Dr. Parmanand, the Medical Officer, Sister Winefried and others.

As usual Her Excellency closely inspected the hospital and visited all the wards and after remaining for some time left for Government House.

Prior to her departure Her Excellency was garlanded.

The Hospital contains about 70 beds, most of which are usually occoupied.

THE VICEROY'S VISIT TO BOMBAY.

Detailed arrangements of the Viceroy's and Lady Hardinge's visit to Bombay are not yet complete. Their Excellencies will arrive at Victoria Terminus on the morning of the 20th instant, and that day has been fixed for the presentation of the address from the Bombay Municipal Corporation. There will be a Garden Party at Government House the same evening. On Saturday the 21st, the new docks will be opened, and Her Excellency Lady Hardinge will sail for England the same afternoon. It was originally intended by the Bombay Municipality to entertain Lord Hardinge and Lord Willingdon at a dinner, but as the Viceroy was not able to accept the invitation, Lord Willingdon will be entertained at a Municipal dinner to-day instead.

H. E THE GOVERNOR.

With regard to the rumoured visit to Matheran within the next ix weeks of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, inquiries made at Government House elicited the information that up to the present no definite arrangements have been made, and that it is quite possible that the visit will not be made. The statement that His Excellency will probably pay a visit to Aden in March of next year is also said to be premature, as Lord Willingdon's programme for 1915 has not, as yet, been arranged.

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